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MONTANA
STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MISSOULA, MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION - 1946

The State Library Extension Commission was created by an act of the Legislature in 1929 but not until 1945 when the law was amended, was money appropriated to finance its work. In compliance with the law, in May 1945, Governor Ford made the following appointments to the Commission: Mrs. Corinne B. Ackley, Lewistown, 1 year term; Mrs. R.C. Dillavou, Billings, 2 year term; Mrs. W.T. Perham, Glendive, 3 year term. The law designates the librarian of The Montana State University, Miss Kathleen Campbell, as chairman of the Commission and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Miss Elizabeth Ireland, ex-officio member. Mrs. Ackley resigned in October and the Governor appointed Miss Margaret Fulmer, Great Falls, to complete her term. In May,1946, Miss Fulmer's appointment was renewed for a three year term.

With the beginning of the 1945 - 1947 biennium in July 1945, Montana State University offered a room in the library building for use as the Commission headquarters. The Commission had difficulty in securing a librarian to assume the duties of Secretary which delayed starting the work until Feb. 15, 1946 when Ellen Torgrimson arrived in Missoula to act as Secretary. Mrs. Vera M. Salinas was hired as Library Assistant. She resigned in August and Mrs. Ruth P. Jahnke took her place. Part time clerical assistance has been employed.

Following is a brief resume of activities of the State Library Extension Commission during the first ten months of its operation.

A library of 4,460 books has been assembled at headquarters at the Montana State University Library. A few of these were gifts; the remainder were ordered from publishers and jobbers. All these books have been cataloged and prepared for circulation. Circulation of books in quantity did not begin until September, but circulation figures had reached 3,879 by December 31st. Field visits to fifty libraries in the state have been made. Help has been given to librarians in filing, cataloging, book selection, budget problems, building and equipment, and personnel problems. In the interest of county and public library organization, talks have been given at Bozeman, Polson, Sula, Scobey, Sidney, Jordan, Glendive, Deer Lodge, Custer, Bridger, Belfry, and Hamilton.

Only seven, out of the fifty-six counties in Montana, have not been served in some way by the Commission, either through loans of books to schools, libraries and individuals, through field visits by the Secretary, or through help and advice given by mail.

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The Commission has cooperated with other educational programs in the state by supplying books for the Montana S tudy; Book Study groups at Corvallis, Ronan and Alberton; the State University Division of Extension and Public Service; and the State Correspondence School. The Secretary attended the Rural Education Conference at Helena, the Montana State Library Association at Helena, the American Library Association conference at Buffalo, the Labor Institute at Missoula, the Pacific Northwest Library Association Conference at Vancouver, B.C., the Montana Education Association meetings at Helena and Kalispell, and a Home Demonstration Council meeting at Chinook.

Articles were supplied to the Montana Education Association journal for the March and September issues and one for the November 15th issue of the Montana Farmer.

The budget expenditures through December 31, 1946 have been as follows:

ITEM	AMOUNT EXPENDED	BALANCE
Salaries	$3,515.00	$4,285.00
Books	6,911.34	1.388.66
Supplies	750.88	749.12
Equipment	289.00	511.00
Travel	998.80	601.20

The Commission has made a commendable record during the first ten months of its operation, as Montana is a large state, sparsely settled, and difficult to cover. Borrowers have written grateful letters expressing their pleasure in the new service now available to them.

The Commission has submitted a budget request for $28,386.08 for the 1947-1949 biennium, a modest increase of only $8,386.08 over the 1945-1947 budget of $20,000. With these additional funds the Commission can increase its usefulness and enlarge its services in the years ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary.

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BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, Jan. 1, 1948

The State Library Extension Commission was created by act of the 1929 Legislative Assembly, but not until the law was amended in 1945 was money appropriated to finance its work. The first biennial budget totalled $20,000, allocated as follows:

Salary of Secretary	$4,800.00
Salary of Assistant	3,000.00
Purchase of books, periodicals & binding	8,300.00
Supplies	1,500.00
Equipment	800.00
Travel	1,600.00

In compliance with the law, Governor Ford made the following appointments to the Commission in May 1945: Mrs. Corinne B. Ackley, librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Lewistown, 1 year term; Mrs. R. C. Dillavou, Billings, 2 year term; Mrs. W. T. Perham, Glendive, 3 year term. Mrs. Ackley left the state and resigned in October 1945. Governor Ford appointed Margaret Fulmer, librarian, Great Falls Public Library, to complete the term and reappointed her in May 1946. Mrs. Dillavou was reappointed in May 1947. The appointments are now made for three years. The law designates as chairman of the Commission the librarian of Montana State University and as ex-officio member the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. These positions are currently held by Kathleen Campbell and Elizabeth Ireland, respectively. The Commission members serve without pay but are reimbursed by the state for traveling expenses.

The Commission was scheduled to begin operating on July 1, 1945, but experienced difficulty in securing a librarian to assume the duties of Secretary. In January 1946 Ellen Torgrimson accepted the post and arrived in Missoula to begin work on February 15th. Mrs. Vera M. Salinas was hired as Library Assistant. She resigned in August and Mrs. Ruth P. Jahnke took over her duties. Additional part-time clerical held has been employed.

Montana State University offered a large room on first floor of the Library building to the Commission for use as headquarters, and the Commission started its operations here. In September 1946, however, because of increased enrollment the University decided that this space was needed for library purposes. It was then necessary for the Commission to move to a smaller room on third floor, a crowded and less desireable location because it is not readily accessible to the public.

Montana is a large and sparsely settled state. Although the first libraries were established as early as 1886, during territorial days, 35% of the population has no local library service whatsoever, and an even larger percentage has very inadequate service. For the most part school libraries are pathetically small and badly organized. It is these needs that the State Library Extension Commission was designed to fill.

Toward that end, a book collection of 6,918 volumes has been assembled at headquarters and processed for circulation. Circulation of books in quantity could not begin until September 1946, but circulation figures reached 32,321 by December 31, 1947. Only one out of fifty-six counties in Montana has not been served in some way by the Commission, either through loans of books to schools, libraries and individuals, through field visits by the Secretary, or through help and advice given by mail. Seventy-nine libraries in the state have been visited, twenty-four of them more than once; 172 days have been spent in travel about the state. Five new county libraries have been organized with the help and direction of the secretary.

The Commission has cooperated with other educational programs in the state by supplying books for the Montana Study, the State University Division of Extension and Public Service, and the State Correspondence School. The Secretary has attended conferences of the Montana State Library Association, Montana Education Association, American Library Association, Pacific Northwest Library Association, County Commissioners Association and Rural Education Conference. She has visited the State Commissions of Minnesota, Washington, North Dakota and Michigan to observe procedures followed in those states.

The State Library Extension Commission has issued two publications: a DIRECTORY OF MONTANA LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS and a compilation of LIBRARY LAWS OF MONTANA. The editing of a quarterly bulletin entitled MONTANA LIBRARIES has been undertaken, the first issue being dated October 1947. This replaces a bimonthly Bulletin formerly published by the Montana State Library Association.

The State Library Extension Commission has held three meetings. The first was held at Helena on May 7, 1946 when questions of policy relating to service, publicity, vacations and sick leave were discussed. The second was held at Billings on September 18, 1946 for the purpose of framing a budget covering the second biennium for consideration of the 1947 Legislative Assembly. A third meeting was held at Missoula on September 19, 1947, when the Commission members had their first opportunity to see the headquarters office. Subjects brought up for discussion were (1) means of obtaining permanent quarters in the Capitol Building at Helena: (2) the framing of by-laws; (3) holding of three quarterly meetings (omitting the summer meeting), two to be held at headquarters in October and February, the third in May in conjunction with the Montana State Library Association conference; (4) the need for increasing the staff; and (5) plans for regional library demonstrations.

On June 30, 1947, budget balances stood as follows:

Salaries	$1,880.75
Purchase of books, periodicals & binding	.38
Supplies	000.00
Equipment	48.60
Travel	26.07

The large balance in the salary fund was due to the fact that the staff did not begin work until Feb. 1946.

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The budget for the 1947-1949 biennium as approved by the 1947 Legislative Assembly, totals $25,526.08. Montana has a population of 559,456 according to the 1940 census. This means that the Commission with its traveling library and advisory and supervisory services is available to the people of Montana at a cost of about two cents per person per year. That the service is appreciated is demonstrated by the many letters from grateful readers, students and teachers in all sections of the state.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary

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SECOND BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR

January 1, 1950

June 30, 1949, marked the close of the second biennium of the State Library Extension Commission's operation.

Staff

Secretary: Ellen Torgrimson

Assistants:	Mrs. F. A. Jahnke	July 1947 - August 1948
	Mrs. Robert Leinart	Sept. 1948 - April 1949
	Mary Helen Holmes	June 20 - August 20, 1949
Part-time clerical workers:		
	Mrs. Bruce Brown	1947 - 1948
	Mrs. Clayton Herron	1948 - 1949
	Mrs. Kenneth Bergum	1949
	Bonnie Hamman	1949

S.L.E.C. Board

Kathleen Campbell, Montana State University Library, Chairman

Mrs. W. T. Perham, Glendive 1945-1948 (declined reappointment)

*Margaret Tolmer, Great Falls Public Library, Vice chairman 1946-1949

Mrs. R. C. Dillavou, Billings 1945-1950

Mrs. D. C. Warren, Glendive 1948-1951 (replaced Mrs. Perham)

**Elizabeth Ireland, State Supt. of Public Instruction 1945-1949

**Mary M. Condon, State Supt. of Public Instruction 1949-

Meetings

At the request of the secretary, a meeting of the Board was called at Missoula on September 19, 1947. All members were present except Miss Ireland. The secretary pointed out the need for regular and more

* New appointment not made by Governor
** Ex-officio

frequent meetings of the Board: for larger headquarters, preferably at Helena; and for more adequate staff. The chairman was instructed to request space for the Commission at the Capitol. A committee was appointed to frame by-laws. Development of statewide library service through Regional set-ups was discussed.

On February 16, 1949, a meeting was held at Billings with all members present except Miss Ireland. By-laws* were adopted at this meeting, and a plan for a Regional Library demonstration in the southeastern part of the state was discussed.

In May 1948, Board members attended the annual meeting of the Montana State Library Association at Libby. An official board meeting was held on May 3rd. All members except Mrs. Perham were present. There was preliminary discussion of the 1949-1951 budget. A policy regarding travel by members to other than Board meetings was adopted. A Library Planning committee for Montana was discussed with some names suggested for presentation to the M. S. L. A. president.

At the next meeting in Billings on October 4, 1948, all members except Miss Ireland were present. A tentative budget for the 1949-1951 biennium was presented and discussed. The addition of a professionally trained assistant librarian and a full-time clerical to the staff was approved. The total of the budget request was $38,057.12. The possibilities of increased cooperation between the S.L.E.C. and the State Department of Public Instruction were discussed.

On May 4, 1949, the Board met in Billings with all members present except Miss Campbell. The inadequacy of library service in the state was discussed, with particular reference to the need for a library survey and possibilities of securing outside help on the project. The need for effective publicity to sell the S.L.E.C. to the public.

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and the legislature in order to secure a more adequate budget was discussed.

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Statistical Report

Circulation	61,255
Interlibrary loans	432 (July 1948-June 1949)
Book collection	11,500 volumes
Registered borrowers	550 (Includes schools, libraries & individuals)
Equipment purchased	1 Smith-Corona typewriter
	1 Allen-Sales adding machine
	2 Steel typewriter tables
	2 Steel typist chairs
	6 Sections double wood shelving
	1 Discharging truck
	1 Wooden book truck
	2 Films

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Publication of a quarterly, MONTANA LIBRARIES, was begun in October 1947. Three hundred fifty copies are printed. The mailing list includes all librarians in the state, all State Library agencies and Library Schools in the U. S. and Canada; the American Library Association, Library of Congress, and other persons and organizations interested in receiving the publication.

Cost of the issues:	Vol. 1	Oct. 1947	$36.91
		Jan. 1948	49.84
		Apr. 1948	35.28
		July 1948	49.66
	Vol. 2	Oct. 1948	65.18
		Jan. 1949	81.48
		Apr. 1949	49.62
		July 1949	50.21

Budget for biennium

		1947-1948	1948-1949	Balance June 30, 1949
643-1	Salary of secretary	2,700.00	2,900.00	.08
2	Salary of assistants	1,810.00	1,870.00	.31
3	Purchase of books, etc.	5,300.00	5,350.00	.29
4	Supplies	1,140.00	1,140.00	2.08
5	Furniture & equipment	750.00	750.00	3.37
6	Travel	800.00	800.00	0.00
7	P.E.R.S.	216.08	55.90*	9.72

Travel

Conferences attended:

July 1947 San Francisco: Library Extension Institute
American Library Association

Sept. 1947 Seattle: Pacific Northwest Library Association

Jan. 1948 Chicago: American Library Association

May 1948 Libby: Montana State Library Association

June 1948 New Brunswick, N.J.: Library Legislation Institute
Atlantic City, N.J.; American Library Association

Sept. 1948 Glacier Park: Pacific Northwest Library Assoc.

March 1949 Billings: Northern Great Plains Library Planning Conference

May 1949 Billings: Montana State Library Association
Great Falls: Montana Institute of the Arts

During the summer of 1947 the secretary visited State Library agencies in North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan and Washington to observe methods and procedures in these well established agencies.

One hundred twenty-three work days were spent traveling within the state. Sixty-three public libraries, 32 high school libraries, eight

* Emergency appropriation by 1949 legislature

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college libraries, three institutional libraries and two special libraries have been visited.

Six high school libraries have asked for and received material help in reorganizing and improving their libraries. Throughout the state library facilities, in all but the Class A high schools, are totally inadequate. The collections are pitifully small with many of the books in the last stages of disintegration. The teacher in charge usually has had no special training for the work, is carrying a full teaching load, and has neither the time nor energy to devote to organizing and operating the library as it should be done. Usually the room is too small, poorly lighted and generally unattractive. Even when plans are being drawn for new school buildings the library receives scant attention. No thought is given to standards for adequate seating capacity, shelving facilities, workrooms and proper furnishings.

The picture in the public library field is equally grim. Low valuations in many counties and cities yield small tax revenues for support of libraries. The income is not sufficient to pay the salary of a full-time librarian, least of all a professionally trained person. The library promoters are fortunate if they can find a small unoccupied building or room where the rent is low, install some crude shelving and odds and ends of furniture, and provide some means of heating and lighting. That the library exists at all is due to the determination and sacrifice of a few public spirited women who realize what an asset to a town a library can be. Too often the local officials are unsympathetic and uncooperative.

The S.L.E.C. is attempting the collossal task of supplying books to supplement such inadequate book collections in Montana's libraries

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and schools. Visits from the secretary bring the workers encouragement, help with their local problems, and a feeling that their efforts are worth-while.

The S.L.E.C. office acts as a medium for interlibrary loans, which bring to the isolated reader the very book he has been wanting or needing. Libraries also take advantage of this service and repeatedly express their appreciation.

Some help has been given in filling positions in the state, both in school and public libraries. This placement service will be expanded as time goes on.

The policy of the S.L.E.C. is to make every penny of its small budget count and to give as prompt and efficient service as possible. The interest, loyalty and cooperation of the S.L.E.C. staff from the beginning, despite the handicaps of crowded and inconvenient working conditions, has been an inspiration to the secretary in directing the work.

The need for more space for S.L.E.C. headquarters is most urgent, and it is hoped that some way may be found to solve this problem before the end of the next biennium.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson

Ellen Torgrimson
Secretary

BI-ANNUAL REPORT FOR

1949-1951

MISSING.

OFFICE

MONTANA
STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MISSOULA, MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1951 - 1953 BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR

The State Library Extension Commission was created by the State Legislature in 1929, but not until 1945 was any money appropriated so that it could function. Its first biennial budget provided $20,000, which has since been increased to a little over $30,000 - a modest sum indeed when one considers the big job the Library Commission is expected to do. Statistics show that out of Montana's population of 591,024 persons, twenty per cent have no library service on the local level, and another thirty-six per cent have sub-standard or part-time service. To supply library service to this segment of the population is the responsibility of the Library Commission, yet its budget compares unfavorably with those of the larger cities in the state:

City	Population	Annual Income
Great Falls	39,214	$76,914
Billings	31,724	58,412
Butte	33,251	27,837
Missoula	22,485	28,141
Helena	17,581	18,338
Bozeman	11,325	16,250
Kalispell	9,737	15,797

According to statistics available for the 1952-1953 fiscal year, expenditures for public library service in Montana totalled $479,495, or $.81 per capita. This is far below the American Library Association's standard of $1.50 per capita for minimum or limited service, $2.00 per capita for reasonably good service, and $3.00 per capita for superior service.

From the beginning, the State Library Extension Commission's chief concern has been to build up a collection of books to circulate throughout the

state, supplementing the library resources of schools and public libraries and bringing direct service to individuals in those areas where no local library service is available. Our policy has been to fill the book needs of Montana citizens to the best of our ability and resources as speedily as possible; but with our small staff it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain our record of prompt service. Although the Commission has had insufficient funds to carry on an effective publicity program, demands for its services show a steady increase each year, and patrons express their appreciation in enthusiastic terms. Each book sent out is selected to fit the individual need of the borrower.

Books are shipped by mail in packages of one to fifty books, with no limitation as to number. Loans to schools and libraries are made for three months, to individuals for one month, with no cost to the borrower except return postage. It is difficult to present a true picture of the Commission's book circulation. Although schools and libraries are encouraged to record circulation on the book cards, only a few do so. Based on the number of books sent out from headquarters, plus the records kept by a small proportion of borrowers, circulation figures for the 1951-1953 biennium total 81,807. Renewals are not included in these circulation records. The special postal rates for shipment of books to and from libraries makes "Books by Mail" service very reasonable. The Commission hopes that the revision of postal rates now under consideration in Congress will not affect the book rate.

TheState Library Extension Commission is grateful to Montana State University for providing free office space in the library building. It is indebted to the Montana State University library, the Missoula Public Library, and other libraries in the state and in the Northwest for generous

interlibrary loan privileges, which have made it possible to supply almost every book requested by Montana citizens. Five hundred interlibrary loans were negotiated during the 1952-1953 fiscal year. Our thanks also to the Extension Service and other staff members at Montana State College for their cooperation in promoting the Rural Reading Program which was inaugurated in October 1952. The excellent annotated booklists and the "Let's Look At" column in the MONTANA FARMER-STOCKMAN are invaluable publicity.

During the biennium, the Secretary visited libraries in Virginia City, Sula, Darby, Stevensville, Butte, Wisdom, Bozeman, Laurel, Columbus, Circle, Forsyth, Glendive, Terry, Billings, Harding, Kalispell, Whitefish, Great Falls, Havre, Chinook, Fort Benton, Chester; attended Montana State Library Association meetings in Sidney (1952 and Missoula (1953); Pacific Northwest Library Association conferences in Victoria, B.C. (1952) and Sun Valley, Idaho (1953); American Library Association conferences in New York (1952) and Los Angeles (1953); the Workshop Tour of Larger Units of Library Service in Upper New York State; the 1953 Home Demonstration Council and County Extension Conference in Bozeman; the State Reading Council in Helena (1951). Five meetings of the State Library Extension Commission were held during the 1951-1953 biennium, one in conjunction with the annual meeting of the state Library Association in Missoula.

Summary of Travel Expenditures

	Transportation	Subsistence	Total
Ellen Torgrimson	$ 361.38	$ 447.91	$ 809.19
Kathleen Campbell	114.46	113.47	227.53
Margaret Fulmer			46.10
Mrs. Leo C. Graybill			40.77
Mrs. John B. Fraser			82.38
Mrs. Isabel Sattler			52.35

Financial Report 1951-1953

	1951-1952	1952-1953	Balance
643-1 Salary of Secretary	$ 3,499.92	$ 3,499.92	$ .16
2 Salary of Assistants	4,514.15	4,814.62	271.23
3 Books	3,983.51	4,016.17	.42

643-4 Clerical workers	$ 494.76	$ 501.30	$ 3.94
6 Travel	614.37	503.05	342.58
7 P.E.R.S.	264.25	249.37	42.50
8 Furniture & Equipment		500.00	0.00
9 Office supplies & expense	490.25	705.00	.35

It was necessary to ask the 1953 Legislature for supplemental appropriations: $132.12 to cover P.E.R.S. payments; $2.91 for an Industrial Accident Board for the previous year which had been submitted late; $195.60 for Office Supplies and Expense. A net balance of $330.55 was turned back to the General Fund. This is no indication that the appropriation was larger than necessary. The balance in the salaries fund was due to the fact that one staff member could work only half time. The balance in the travel was due to the fact that pressure of work at headquarters made it impossible for the Secretary to carry on the customary field work, pointing up the need for a Field Assistant.

The State Library Extension Commission is composed of three members appointed by the Governor for three year terms, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Librarian of Montana State University, who is designated as chairman. Appointive members of the Commission are: Mrs. Leo C. Graybill, Great Falls; Mrs. R. L. Ewing, Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Hast, Bozeman. Kathleen Campbell, chairman, and Mary M. Condon are the ex-officio members. Former Commission members have included: Mrs. Norman Ackley, the late Mrs. W. T. Perham, Mrs. R. C. Dillavou, Margaret Fulmer, Mrs. D. C. Warren, Mrs. Peter Sattler, and Mrs. John B. Fraser.

The headquarters staff consists of Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary; Isabel Copian and Mrs. Florena I. Viral (Half time), Assistants; and several part-time clerical workers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary

THE 1953-1955 BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR OF MONTANA

It is with pleasure that I submit this fifth Biennial Report of the State Library Extension Commission to the Governor of Montana, the Honorable J. Hugo Aronson.

During the first ten years of its operation, the Library Commission's book collection has grown to 24,373 volumes, its assets to $50,000. It has served an indeterminate number of Montana citizens with books, other printed materials, and information; it has supplied consultant service and assistance in professional techniques to school and public libraries; it has cooperated with institutions of higher learning in supplying books for students; it has assisted in the work of the State Correspondence School and other state institutions; it has furnished book exhibits for organizations, schools workshops and conventions; it has worked closely with the State Library Association in planning for the extension of good library service to all sections of the state; it has published a quarterly bulletin, MONTANA LIBRARIES, for distribution to Montana librarians, Library Schools, State Library Agencies and others who are interested in receiving it; it has assembled public library statistics and served as a clearing house for information regarding library service in Montana.

In Montana only 27 counties have established county libraries, and many of these cannot support adequate library service because of their low taxable valuations. One county has no public library within its borders; in other counties the rural population does not have access to any public library service. These are the areas which the Library Commission primarily is designed to serve. Each year more and more people become aware of the services offered by the Commission and take advantage of them. That the service is appreciated is evidenced almost daily by the grateful letters which come in from patrons all over the state. Their appreciation was graphically demonstrated during

the 1955 Legislative Assembly. Appealed to for help in securing an increased appropriation, library friends and patrons throughout the state responded with a flood of letters to Legislators telling of the pleasure and benefits derived from the books sent out from the Commission library. As a result of their help, the Library Commission was granted a sufficient increase in its budget to permit employment of a Library Consultant. In June, the Library Commission selected Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick, librarian of the Taft Branch of Kern County Library in California, to fill this position.

Pressure of work at headquarters during the biennium forced almost complete curtailment of state travel by the Secretary. This was not a good situation, because personal visits to libraries are a very important part of library extension work. The Library Consultant will now assume this phase of the work and will also handle publicity and public realtions, conduct workshops and institutes, and work toward library cooperation and integration on a statewide basis.

The staff of the Library Commission has always aimed at promptness in getting materials sent out, but it has become increasingly difficult to maintain this standard with its small number of workers. At certain peak periods, in September and January when school requests flood in, and again in December and June when school collections are returned, the system completely bogs down. Headquarters are crowded with boxes of books waiting to be checked in and shelved - or temporarily put away in boxes again because there is no more room on the shelves.

During the 1953-1954 fiscal year, the Library Commission shipped 29,393 books; during the year ended June 30, 1955, it shipped 32,814 books. It is impossible to estimate how many people have enjoyed these books, because libraries and schools are permitted to circulate the collections for three months or longer, and books loaned to individuals may be read by other mem-

ers of the family or passed on to friends before being returned. Recorded irculation for the biennium:

	1953-1954	1954-1955
Juvenile	34,141	34,266
Adult	15,285	15,870
Grand Total	99,562	
Interlibrary Loan	1,198	
Rural Reading Program	1,049	

In May 1954, a Gaylord Charging Machine was installed, which quickly proved ts value in time saving and in accuracy. Other new equipment included a our-section unit of wood shelving, a typewriter with special platen for typing ards, and a large work table.

Expenditures for the biennium:

Salaries	$18,593.52
Books	7,996.77
Travel	1,364.93
Furniture and Equipment	716.66
Office Supplies and Operation	2,151.83
P.E.R.S. Contribution	476.27
	31,299.98
Balance	97.97

'he appropriation made for the State Library Extension Commission by the 953 Legislative Assembly was $31,352.00. Because the amount provided for he P.E.R.S. contribution was not sufficient to cover necessary payments, supplemental appropriation of $45.95 was granted by the 1955 Assembly.

During the biennium, Montana was fortunate to have three distinguished ersons in the library profession visit the State. Miss S. Janice Kee, xecutive Secretary, Public Libraries Division, American Library Association,

spent several days in central Montana in September 1953, addressing meetings in Havre and Great Falls and conferring with a representative group of Montana librarians. Miss Kee visited Montana again in May 1954, attending the annual meeting of the Montana Library Association in Helena. David Clift, Executive Secretary, American Library Association, addressed the 1955 meeting of the Library Association in Miles City in May. Mrs. Gretchen Knief Schenk also attended this meeting and participated in panel discussions on the subject of cooperation between libraries and coordination of services. Mrs. Schenk, the author of an authoritative book on COUNTY AND REGIONAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT, has had wide experience in library extension work.

Conferences attended by the Secretary were:

Sept. 1953	Pacific Northwest Library Association, Sun Valley.
May 1954	Montana Library Association, Helena.
May 1955	Montana Library Association, Miles City.
June 1954	American Library Association, Minneapolis.
June 1954	National Association of State Libraries, Minneapolis.
May 1954	Northwest Historical Conference, Helena.
May 1954	State Reading Conference, Helena.
May 1955	State Reading Conference, Helena.
October 1954	American Association of University Women - Workshop, Helena.
June 1955	Home Demonstration Council, Bozeman.

Montana libraries visited by the Secretary included those in Helena, Bozeman, Billings, Laurel, Miles City, Hardin, Forsyth, Glendive, Sidney, Great Falls, Fort Benton, Shelby, Missoula, Darby, Polson, Ronan and St. Ignatius.

The Chairman attended the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in Minneapolis in June 1954, the annual meeting of the Montana Library Association in May 1954 and May 1955, the meeting with Miss Kee in Great Falls

in September 1953, a meeting of the Whitefish Library Association in March 1955, and made trips to Helena and Bozeman on Commission business.

Meetings of the State Library Extension Commission were held on March 1, May 2, Sept. 24, and Dec. 13, 1954, in Helena; on May 8, 1955, in Miles City, and on May 17 and June 23, 1955, in Helena.

Members of the State Library Extension Commission were: Kathleen Campbell, Chairman, and Mary M. Condon, ex officio; Mrs. J. B. Mast, Bozeman; Mrs. R. L. Ewing, Glasgow; Mrs. Leo C. Graybill, Great Falls. Mrs. Graybill's term expired in May 1955. Mrs. Frank Fulton, Plevna, was appointed by the Governor to succeed her.

The headquarters staff were: Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary; Mrs. Florena I. Vinal, Assistant (half time); Isabel Gopian, Assistant. Part-time student help was employed to perform stenographic and clerical duties.

The State Library Extension Commission wishes to express its appreciation to Montana State University for providing office space and utilities, to the Montana State University Library and the Missoula Public Library for generous interlibrary loan privileges, to the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center for its invaluable assistance, to Montana State College Library and Extension Service for assistance in publicity and the Rural Reading Program, to the Montana Library Association for its wholehearted cooperation, and to the Governor and Legislature of Montana for their fine support and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson

Ellen Torgrimson

Secretary

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MONTANA
STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MISSOULA, MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 15, 1956

R E P O R T
July 1955 - June 1956

The year ended June 30, 1956 has been an eventful one in the history of the State Library Commission. At long last there was a budget large enough to permit employment of a Library Consultant. For this post the Commission was fortunate to secure the services of Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick who joined the staff August 8th. Coming to Montana from Kern County, California, with a background of experience in extension library service and public relations, she quickly adapted herself to the new position. Although supervision of the headquarters office restricted her activities to some extent, she was able to do considerable traveling, meeting with the librarians and getting acquainted with conditions of the state. She concentrated her field work in the western part of the state and emphasized the need for cooperation among libraries in the region, in order to make their work more effective and satisfying. In all her contacts she was paving the way for implementation of the Library Services Act, which was passed by Congress and signed by the President on June 19.

In September the Secretary left Missoula to enroll in the University of Illinois Library School to work on a Master's degree. She spent a busy and stimulating nine months, completing her course and receiving her degree on June 16. The courses she took, all on the graduate level, included Cataloging, Bibliography of Science and Technology, Bibliography of Literature and the Humanities, Administration, Larger Units of Library Service, Rural Sociology, Communications, and Adult Education.

In December came the big move - from the University Library, whose hospitality the Commission had enjoyed for ten years, to somewhat less satisfactory quarters in a World War I temporary building. Mrs. Chadwick directed the operation and reports that the staff was most cooperative and loyal. She deserves special commendation for a difficult job well done.

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Then was born the dream of permanent quarters in Helena, with plans drawn up for an addition to the Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building. Since the Legislature may authorize expenditure of funds from the Capitol Land Grant Fund for the purpose, it seems hopeful that the dream may become a reality. There will be definite advantages in locating the Commission at the Capitol. Helena is more centrally located, business procedures will be expedited, and the Commission will become better known throughout the state.

STATISTICAL REPORT

CIRCULATION	Juvenile	Adult	
Non-fiction	4,481	4,037	
Fiction	19,551	4,622	
Total	24,032	8,659	
Grand Total			32,691
Interlibrary Loan			659
Film			1

BOOK COLLECTION

July 1, 1955	24,374
Books added	2,629
June 30, 1956	26,103

FINANCES

$177.68 Balance

PERMANENT STAFF

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary

Catherine S. Chadwick, Library Consultant

Florena I. Vinal, Headquarters Librarian

Fay McPherson, Stenographer

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson

Ellen Torgrimson,
Secretary

THE REPORT

of the

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

July 1, 1955 to June 30, 1957

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

Ex Officio Members

Kathleen Campbell, Chairman	Librarian, Montana State University
Harriet Miller	State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Appointive Members

Dr. Amos R. Little, Helena	Term expires May 22, 1958
Mrs. R. L. Ewing, Glasgow	May 22, 1959
Mrs. J. B. Mast, Bozeman	May 22, 1960

FORMER MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Mrs. Norman Ackley, Lewistown

Mrs. Wallace Perham, Glendive

Mrs. R. C. Dillavou, Billings

Miss Elizabeth Ireland, Helena

Miss Margaret Fulmer, Great Falls

Mrs. D. C. Warren, Glendive

Mrs. John B. Fraser, Billings

Mrs. Peter Sattler, Glendive

Mrs. Leo C. Graybill, Great Falls

Miss Mary M. Condon, Helena

Mrs. Frank Fulton, Plevna

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Missoula, Montana

June 30, 1957

The Honorable J. Hugo Aronson

Governor of Montana

Helena, Montana

Sir:

In compliance with the provisions of Sections 44-129, Laws of Montana, I have the honor of submitting the report of the State Library Extension Commission for the period beginning July 1, 1955, and ending June 30, 1957.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Torgrimson

Ellen Torgrimson
Secretary

STAFF

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary

Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick, Director of Library Service (resigned April 1, 1957)

Mrs. Ruth O. Longworth, Library Consultant (appointed June 10, 1957)

Mrs. Florena I. Vinal, Circulation Librarian

Fay McPherson, Secretary-Bookkeeper

STAFF

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

Ellen Torgrimson, Secretary

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Mrs. Ruth O. Longworth, Library Consultant (appointed June 10, 1957)

Mrs. Florena I. Vinal, Circulation Librarian

Fay McPherson, Secretary-Bookkeeper

REPORT OF THE STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

The State Library Extension Commission is charged by law "to give assistance and advice to all libraries in the state and to communities in the state which may purpose to establish libraries, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, or improving established libraries, and aiding in the establishment of traveling libraries."

The Commission's objectives in the performance of these duties are to provide consultant service to libraries in the state which require assistance and advice in administration and library techniques, to provide reliable bibliographic, reference and interlibrary loan services to supplement local library services, and to give direct library service to areas where there are no local library facilities. It seeks to stimulate development of library services throughout the state in such a manner that every resident will have ready access to books and other library materials for informational and recreational purposes.

During the biennium under review the Commission has been especially active in the field of publicity and public relations in an effort to create greater public awareness of the importance of public library service in the cultural, educational and economic life of the state. The use of communications media has been increased with a definite program of radio and newspaper publicity and news releases to organizations and periodicals. New Friends of the Library groups have been organized in many communities and the groundwork laid for a statewide organization.

HOLDINGS AND ACQUISITIONS

The State Library Extension Commission accessioned and catalogued 3,380 volumes during the biennium, bringing its total catalogued holdings to 27,753 on June 30, 1957. Of the volumes added 2,681 were acquired by purchase and 699 by gift.

Most of the gifts received from local libraries were seldom-used titles or duplicates. Some excellent books were received from Montana State College, Montana School of Mines, and Montana State University. Mrs. Marian Place, who has a book review page in MONTANA: THE MAGAZINE OF WESTERN HISTORY, donated review copies of children's books.

Since the Commission extends supplementary library service to schools and libraries and direct service to individuals who do not have access to local libraries, it is necessary to develop the book collection both in the fields of adult and juvenile fiction and non-fiction. Special emphasis has been placed on purchase of books which should be available in the state, but for which there is limited demand in local libraries.

The Commission continued to participate in the Children's Book Council's program of Traveling Exhibits of Children's Books. Pre-publication copies of 710 children's books were received from 42 publishers during the past year and set up in exhibits of 100 or more books. Exhibits were loaned to libraries, schools, organizations, and were used by the various units of the University of Montana in library and children's literature courses. Final disposition of exhibit books is left to the discretion of the Commission. Some titles were incorporated into the Commission's book collection; others were given to state institutions, schools for handicapped children, and to libraries with limited book budgets.

PUBLICATIONS

The State Library Extension Commission continued publication of its quarterly, MONTANA LIBRARIES, which is distributed to all libraries in the state, to library schools, state library agencies, and others who have requested inclusion on the mailing list. The January issues carry a summary of annual Public Library statistics. The McKee Printing Company, Butte, held the printing contract.

Issued in multigraph form were the Directory of Montana Libraries and Librarians, booklists, publicity leaflets, releases in regard to Legislation and the Library Services Act, and an article on Weeding the Library. Articles on Commission activities and services appeared in MONTANA FARMER-STOCKMAN, MONTANA LIBRARY QUARTERLY, MONTANA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS QUARTERLY, MONTANA PARENT-TEACHER, KAIMIN, and the MISSOULIAN. Newspapers throughout the State cooperated generously in publishing news releases. Radio and TV stations were supplied with spot announcements adapted from those prepared by the A.L.A. Public Relations Office.

PERSONNEL

A Library Consultant was added to the staff in August 1955. Mrs. Catherine S. Chadwick was appointed to fill the new position. She came to Missoula from Taft, California, where she had been Librarian of the Taft Branch of the Kern County Free Library. A graduate of the College of Puget Sound and the University of California School of Librarianship, she had teaching and school library experience before going to Taft.

At a meeting of the Commission in August 1956, Mrs. Chadwick's title was changed to "Director of Library Service".

The Secretary, Miss Ellen Torgrimson, was on leave-of-absence from September 1, 1955 to June 30, 1956, for graduate study at the University of Illinois Library School. She was granted a Master of Science degree on June 16, 1956, and returned to her position as Secretary on July 1. A graduate of St. Olaf College, Miss Torgrimson had previously done graduate work in Library Science at the University of Illinois, the University of Minnesota, and Columbia University.

Mrs. Florena I. Vinal, Circulation Librarian, has been with the Commission on a part-time basis since 1952. She is a graduate of Montana State University, with a major in Library Economy, and had previous library experience in the Missoula Public Library and the Montana State University Library.

Miss Fay McPherson, Secretary-Bookkeeper, joined the staff in September 1955. She attended the Missoula County High School, specializing in secretarial training.

Both Mrs. Chadwick and Miss Torgrimson submitted their resignations, effective May 1 and July 1, respectively, to accept positions in other states. The position of Library Consultant will not be filled until the autumn of 1957. Mrs. Ruth O. Longworth, formerly Glacier County Librarian, has been appointed to the post of Secretary, beginning July 1. Mrs. Longworth holds a diploma in Library Science from the University of Denver School of Librarianship.

HEADQUARTERS

When the State Library Extension Commission began operations in 1946 President Melby of Montana State University offered space in the library building for headquarters. Although the space was inadequate, there were many advantages in being located where a large book collection and reference and bibliographic aids were readily accessible. In October 1955, with the library building undergoing extensive remodeling and the construction of an addition to provide offices and stack space, President McFarland decreed that the Commission must be moved to an old frame building, which had been erected as a temporary building during World War I. The building is shared with the State Correspondence School. It is completely inadequate and undesirable. The lighting is poor, the floors are in bad condition, ill-fitting windows and doors make dust a constant problem, and the building is a fire hazard. Faulty steam pipes have caused damage to books and equipment on several occasions. Many books have to be stored in boxes for lack of room, which makes them inaccessible when needed. (It is impossible to operate efficiently under such crowded and inconvenient conditions.)

The request for funds for a building on the Capitol grounds, which was submitted to the 1957 Legislature, brought the plight of the Commission to the attention of lawmakers and lay people alike. Although the bill was killed in committee, there was considerable sentiment in favor of it.

The Commission headquarters should be moved to Helena, where other state boards and commissions are located, as soon as suitable quarters can be found.

LEGISLATION

The 1955 Legislative Assembly granted a substantial increase in the State Library Extension Commission's biennial budget, making possible the employment of a Library Consultant to assist librarians in the state with their administrative and technical problems.

The State Library Extension Commission proposed three measures to come before the 1957 Legislative Assembly. The first, and most important, was an increased operating budget which would permit some expansion in the work of the Commission and which would provide special funds to cover the cost to the Seattle Public Library of servicing blind readers in Montana. The Seattle Public Library is the U. S. Depository for Braille and talking books for the states of Washington, Montana, and the Territory of Alaska. Although the books are free to readers, they must be serviced by staff; and in the past, the Seattle Public Library has carried the financial burden for this state.

The budget as prepared and submitted by the Commission to the House Appropriations Committee was passed by the Legislature. The budget for the 1957-1959 biennium will be $61,994.00, an increase of more than $19,000.00 over the present budget. Of this amount, $7,200.00 will be expended for service to the blind.

A bill was introduced in the House requesting an appropriation from the Capitol Land Grant Fund to construct a headquarters building for the Commission in Helena. This bill was killed in Committee; but this came as no great surprise, since, after the bill was introduced, an amendment to the Enabling Act was passed by Congress legalizing the use of moneys in the Fund for repairs to the State Capitol. The Enabling Act had previously been interpreted to

permit the Fund to be used only for new construction. Had the amendment not passed when it did, the Commission was in a favorable position to secure an appropriation from the Capitol Land Grant Fund.

The third legislative proposal, recommended by the Commission but not brought before the Legislature, was an amendment to the present Commission law, which would change the composition of the Commission by increasing the membership from three to five members, who would be lay members, with terms of five years; adding the Director of Agricultural Extension at Montana State College as an ex-officio member; adding a qualified librarian from a city, county, or regional library; and deleting that part of the law which provides that the Librarian of Montana State University shall be a member. Members of the Montana State Library Association's Legislative Committee did not favor this amendment. They were of the opinion that, with the initiation of Montana's Library Development Program, made possible through the Library Services Act, this was not a good time to change the membership of the Commission. Commission members agreed that the Commission law should have further study before any changes be made.

LIBRARY SERVICES ACT

Federal funds for the extension of library services to rural areas without such services or with inadequate services were authorized by the Library Services Act, which was passed by Congress in June 1956. This is a five-year matching program in which Federal funds may be matched by state and local funds used for library service to rural areas. The Act authorizes an appropriation of $7,500,000 a year.

For the first year's program, however, Congress appropriated only $2,050,000 to provide the basic $40,000 grant to each of the states. Montana's matching requirement was $39,428.

Miss Torgrimson and Mrs. Chadwick attended a regional meeting in Sacramento in October, where representatives of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare briefed State Library Agency personnel on regulations and procedures. Montana's plan, based on voluntary federations of libraries, was approved in January 1957. It provided for two initial demonstration areas, and two federations were formed: the Northwest Montana Federation of Libraries composed of the libraries in Lincoln and Flathead Counties, with Mrs. Inez Herrig as coordinator; and the Five Valleys Federation of Libraries embracing Missoula, Mineral, Ravalli, Sanders, Lake, Granite and Powell Counties, with Miss Evelyn Swant as coordinator. The plan provided for:

Centralized purchasing and processing of books;

Cataloguing of public libraries' collections now uncatalogued;

Supplying additional periodicals, reference materials, films and recordings;

Bookmobile service to rural areas;

Workshops and institutes for library personnel.

In March the Federal money - $40,000 - was deposited with the State Treasurer, and the program got under way. Two bookmobiles were delivered to the State Library Extension Commission and one was assigned to each of the federations. Bookmobile service began in May in the Northwest Montana Federation, in June in the Five Valleys Federation. Books, equipment, and supplies were purchased for the libraries participating in the demonstrations; and building improvements were made in several libraries. Some funds were expended for salaries of professional and clerical personnel and for travel.

In June 1957 Congress approved an appropriation of $5,000,000 for 1957-1958. Montana's share will be $57,525, with a matching requirement of $56,703. Books and services will be emphasized in the coming year's program; and new demonstrations will be started in other areas of the state.

Miss Helen Luce is the Library Extension Specialist assigned to the Western states. She visited Montana in May, attending the Montana State Library Association conference in Butte and visiting the State Library Extension Commission headquarters in Missoula where she conferred with librarians involved in the demonstrations.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

New libraries were established in Darby and Dixon during the year, and both libraries are participating in the Library Services Program. A movement in Ravalli County for organization of a county library was prompted by the proposed Federal Aid program; but it aroused opposition among Stevensville residents and did not progress beyond the discussion stage. It is hoped that both Ravalli and Sanders Counties will organize on a county-wide basis in order to provide a taxing unit to support the library program at the end of the demonstration period.

The public libraries in Glendive and Miles City initiated a program of service to the rural schools in their counties. Billings added a second bookmobile for its school service, and Great Falls inaugurated bookmobile service in outlying areas.

New library buildings were completed in Cut Bank, Browning and Shelby.

The annual statistical summary for public libraries was published in the January issues of MONTANA LIBRARIES.

EXTENSION AND LOANS

Consultant services were concentrated in Western Montana, since that area was chosen for demonstrations under the Library Services Act. Libraries were visited and suggestions offered for improving services, making quarters more attractive, and developing book collections. The Director of Library Services spoke before groups, met with library boards to discuss library problems and their solution, and promoted the idea of cooperation among the libraries in purchasing, cataloguing and processing of books, reciprocal borrowing privileges, and the development of good library service for all residents of the region. Libraries in other sections of the State were visited, too, in order that the Director of Library Services might become acquainted with the librarians and their problems.

The Commission was represented at the annual conferences of the Pacific Northwest Library Association in Gearhart, Oregon, in 1955, and in Pullman, Washington, in 1956; at the annual conferences of the American Library Association in Miami, Florida, in 1956, and in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1957; at the annual conferences of the Montana State Library Association in Kalispell in 1956, and in Butte in 1957.

During the biennium 59,702 books were sent out from headquarters to schools, libraries and individuals. Of these, 43,255 were children's books, 16,447 were loans to adults. Interlibrary loans from the Montana State University Library, Missoula Public Library, and through the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center numbered 1,726.

APPROPRIATIONS

The appropriation approved by the Legislative Assembly in 1955 and signed by the Governor totalled $42,914.00 for the biennium. The fund was allocated as follows:

Salaries and Wages	$29,000.00
Office Operation and Expense	5,328.00
Public Employees' Retirement System	986.00
Capital Outlay - Books	7,600.00

July 1, 1958 SUPPLEMENT TO THE REPORT

of the

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

July 1, 1955 to June 30, 1957

STAFF

STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

Ruth O. Longworth, Secretary

Marquerita McDonald, Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Florena I. Vinal, Circulation Librarian

Meridan Bennett, Director of Technical Processing

Mrs. Mary E. Ellis, Stenographer-Bookkeeper

Mrs. Deidra Munkers, Stenographer

Mrs. Dolores McDonald, Assistant Stenographer

Astrid Arnoldson, Assistant in Charge of Publicity

Mrs. Joan Scott, Clerk (part time)

Gary Hackman, Clerk (part time)

Janitor

July 1, 1958 REPORT OF THE MONTANA STATE LIBRARY EXTENSION COMMISSION

Montana ended its second fiscal year under the Library Services Act on July 1st, 1958. The State Agency is pleased to present the following stimulating report of progress:

72,164 people in nine counties now have county wide library service in areas where no such system existed prior to the beginning of the State Plan under the Library Services Act. These counties are: Custer, Dawson, Petroleum, Pondera, Ravalli, Lake, Granite, Mineral and Powell.

Four counties with some library service from established county libraries are now receiving greatly improved and extended service. Population figures in these four counties total 77,762. These counties are Missoula, Mineral, Libby and Flathead.

Two bookmobiles are in operation in the two existing federations of libraries and are giving excellent service to the rural areas. Montana's bookmobiles purchased under the Plan were the first in the nation to get rolling.

State-wide services from the Commission have been increased to a considerable degree.

The problem of adequate housing for the State Agency was resolved in December, 1957. Headquarters were moved from the two small crowded rooms in one of the temporary buildings on the Montana State University campus to the present spacious quarters at South Ave. and Middlesex in Missoula. Necessary furniture and equipment was purchased in the preceding year so funds have been freed to provide personnel to implement the program and to increase the book collection to some degree. Demand far exceeds the supply, however, and

future plans must provide a large amount to satisfy this need.

29,290 books were circulated from Headquarters to libraries, schools and individuals, an increase of 30% over the previous year. Circulation records showing use in the schools and small libraries are not available so it is only possible to report with accuracy on the number sent out during the year.

The Commission staff traveled 15,980 miles within the state, making 93 visits to public libraries. 50 of these were initial visits, 20 included conferences with the library boards or the county commissioners who serve as the Board. In 13, conferences were held with library friends. On 4 occasions, help was given extensively with weeding. Four mending clinics were held during these visits.

At the request of the Board, the Commission staff visited three of the State Institution libraries: The School for the Deaf and Blind, State Hospital at Galen and the Orphans Home at Twin Bridges. Advice and counsel was given on improved services. Since July 1st, a visit was made to the State Prison Library and a report given in the Legislative Council.

Five general workshops and problem clinics were held during the year, plus two that were a part of the Montana State Library Association program at Billings: one on bookmobile service and one for library trustees.

A total of nine talks on Montana's plan under the Library Services Act were given to interested local groups. At state meetings, the Commission was represented at the Montana Federation of Women's Clubs, the Montana Institute of the Arts, P.T.A. Council, Home Demonstration Council, Family Life Conference, 4-H Leaders Conference,

Montana Academy of Arts and Sciences and two meetings of the Association of Student Librarians. Program time was allowed the Commission representative at most of these meetings.

Out of state trips were made to Chicago for A.L.A. Midwinter, to Seattle for both the P.N.B.C. Board of Managers and the P.N.L.A. Library Development project.

Thirty-one programs on library service have been provided by the loan of the films: Books for All, The Magic Number and The Impressionable Years. When possible, these were accompanied by exhibits, presenting graphically the services of the State Agency and pointing up patterns of cooperation.

A display of books by Montana Authors is on loan at the Commission and is in wide use; the Traveling Exhibit of Childrens Books is a continuing service, borrowed last year for 15 localities; two scrapbooks, small posters and a variety of exhibit material have been sent out over a wide territory on many occasions.

MONTANA LIBRARIES, the quarterly publication of the State Agency has been increased from 350 copies per issue to 1,500. Starting in June, letters to each public librarian are now being sent to supplement the information in the quarterly. One letter was written to all school librarians and will be resumed each month in the Fall. 2,500 copies of Questions and Answers on the Library Services Act in Montana have been compiled. A printed handbook for Library Trustees has had wide distribution and an up to date directory of libraries and librarians has been broadened to include all school libraries.

Reading lists include:

Books about Montana or by Montanans, 1957

Books about Montana or by Montanans, 1958

Recommended reading for P.T.A.

Reference list on Stories for Story Telling Museum Techniques (prepared for the M.I.A. History Workshop)

In preparation are lists for all Home Demonstration Clubs and another for members of the Montana Institute of the Arts.

Thousands of mimeographed releases have gone out this past year, in cooperation with Mr. Miles, Chairman of National Library Week, Mrs. Graybill, Chairman for Montana for A.A.L.T., Home Demonstration Clubs, Montana Federation of Women's Clubs, Friends of the Library, Montana Library Association, Montana Institute of the Arts and the State Department of Public Instruction. Besides regular releases to all radio stations and newspapers, articles have appeared in each issue of the Montana Parent Teacher and in two issues of Montana Education.

$2,600 has been spent for films for the state film circuit which will start service in September, 1958, with Great Falls as a center.

A Photocopy machine has been placed in the Missoula Public Library and lists of the holdings in periodicals has been sent to every library in the state. Photocopies of any magazine articles in the Missoula collection are available to every library on request.

The Commission has become a "book bank" for the state. Duplicate copies of gift books and withdrawals in good condition are now sent to headquarters. At intervals, lists of these books will be sent to the libraries so that selection can be made for replacements.

Not only is there a gratifying interest in the state in improving library service (61 written requests for advice and counsel and more invitations to visit than time will permit, besides the expression of interest on every visit that has been made) but there are concrete

steps toward extension of services. The Carnegie Library in Miles City and the Glendive Public Library both have contracts with the county to extend service to all rural residents. A contract between the Great Falls Library with Conrad and Pondera County is now a reality.

Two federations of libraries are now in existence, with four additional areas in the planning stage. Miles City and the seven surrounding counties will be next in the plan.

In the NORTHWEST MONTANA FEDERATION OF LIBRARIES, two counties with four libraries have joined together in a plan of cooperation: The Carnegie Public Library and the Flathead County Library in Kalispell; the Whitefish Public Library - all three in Flathead County and the Lincoln County Library at Libby. Mrs. Robert Herrig is coordinator, with Libby as Headquarters for the Federation.

Circulation records have tripled this past year in Northwest Montana, according to Inez Herrig's report. Cooperative ordering, processing and cataloging has been done on a total of over 10,000 books. These were purchased by both local and federal funds and processed by the coordinator at Libby. Regular meetings are held for the purpose of book selection and an exchange of ideas. These are of immense value to the participating libraries, according to the reports of the librarians.

Mildred Grawe, Flathead County Librarian, says "the year of Federal aid has been of great benefit to us in many ways, first of all in increased circulation and reading. Many rural area children were introduced to library books. The majority of the children had never seen a bookmobile, so were very much interested. At the end of the

school year we had quite a number of letters from children thanking us for the use of books and the bookmobile. One parent said "It's been the best thing that ever happened to this town!"

"In the summer when the bookmobile arrives, the children run in from all directions. One day we got lost in the woods and the family living at the end of the road helped us get turned around - then the six children from this family got excited about the books and have been regular library patrons ever since.

"In material ways we have been helped too by the acquisition of much needed bookcases, 8 in all. Also a fine charging desk which replaced an ordinary office desk, now being used by the librarian. A four drawer pamphlet file is a great help.

"Our Branch Library in Columbia Falls needed a new roof and we were permitted to have that, since our own supply of funds had run out.

"Having the books arrive processed makes all the difference to us here. We now have time to give our patrons a great deal of personal attention; time for careful book collection - Time, in fact to give good library service to all."

From the Carnegie City Library in Kalispell, Jean Sturdivant writes, "This library was badly in need of a room in which the children's story hour could be conducted and also space where meetings could be held - Library Board Meetings, Federation meetings, etc. So the Federal funds fulfilled a great need here and enabled us to execute plans which it probably would have taken years of planning and saving to achieve.

"This activities room will also provide a meeting place for a few small outside groups. These will have to be limited however, as the room

is to be primarily for library activities, and will also be used as an overflow reading room during the busy winter months.

"The federal funds paid for the remodeling and furnishing of the room and for storm windows. The room has now been in use about 8 months. In the future, it is hoped, there will be regular Girl Scout activities taking place there as well as those of other organizations."

The Whitefish Library moved to attractive new quarters this past year. Mabel Engelter, librarians says "The opportunity for Whitefish to be a part of the Northwest Montana Federation of Libraries has been an answer to a prayer. Furniture, equipment, audio-visual aids were provided for us that we could not possibly have had otherwise.

"Another particularly beneficial service is the centralized processing of books. Until a month ago, the entire staff consisted of the one librarian. The savings effected by larger discounts with cooperative borrowing and the time saved by having the books arrive ready for circulation, help us more than I can say.

"My personal feeling is that the Whitefish Public Library has advanced twenty years by the program under the Library Services Act. In the short time we have been in our new quarters, circulation has shown a 74% increase in comparison with the same period a year ago. The children particularly seem to have the doors of a whole new world open to them. The entire community is proud of our fine plant and our good service. All of us in Whitefish are deeply grateful."

The FIVE VALLEYS FEDERATION includes seven counties: Missoula, Mineral, Ravalli, Sanders, Lake, Granite, and Powell.

Evelyn Swant, Librarian of the Missoula City-County Library and Coordinator of Five Valleys, reports "Benefits to the existing libraries and

to the surrounding rural areas are very great indeed in this federation.

"Book collections of the Hamilton, Darby, Mineral County and Thompson Falls Libraries have been weeded and recataloged during fiscal, 1958.

"The reference collections of all of the libraries have been surveyed and needs purchased so that each library now has the basic reference books of factual and biographical information.

"Equipment needs were surveyed and purchases made so each library now has the necessary equipment to operate efficiently.

"Building needs and repairs were made where local funds were not available.

"Meetings under the sponsorship of S.L.E.C. for librarians, trustees and interested friends have been held at intervals for the discussion of needs, library problems, book ordering and use of reference boosk.

"In August 1957, a technical processing center was set up at Commission Headquarters and since that time books purchased by the cooperating libraries have been delivered processed and with catalog cards - ready for the shelves. Considerable saving to each library has been effected by the additional discount made possible by cooperative buying. A total of 7491 books, purchased with federal, state and local funds have been ordered, processed and cataloged during fiscal 1958.

"The bookmobile is a most welcome service. Since July 1, 1957, the unit has traveled 21,626 miles and has circulated a total of 26,448 to 1,400 afamilies. An excellent publicity program with posters, news releases to radio and newspapers has done much to populariza this fine service.

"Both federations have instituted the use of courtesy cards so that any borrower of any of the participating libraries may use the services

of the other libraries when he is in that community."

Cooperation is the very essence of the program in Montana and the above report gives fine evidence of the impressive results of joint effort.

APPROPRIATIONS

The appropriation approved by the Legislative Assembly in 1957 and signed by the Governor totalled $62,346 for the biennium. The fund was allocated as follows:

Salary and Wages	$35,880.00
Social Security	850.00
P.E.R.S.	1,346.00
Services to the Blind	7,200.00
Repairs and Replacements	400.00
Operation	8,070.00
Capital Outlay	8,600.00

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